

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DATE: March 20, 2012

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: Dr. Joe A. Hairston, Superintendent

SUBJECT: **REPORT ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5410, SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES**

ORIGINATOR: Renee A. Foose, Deputy Superintendent

RESOURCE PERSON(S): Dale Rauenzahn, Executive Director, Student Support Services

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Education reviews the proposed changes to Policy 5410.
This is the first reading.

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Attachment I: Policy Analysis
Attachment II: Policy 5410

**POLICY ANALYSIS FOR
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5410
SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES**

Statement of Issues or Questions Addressed

In accordance with Board of Education Policy and Superintendent's Rule 8130, Policy 5410 is scheduled for review in school year 2011-2012. Policy 5410 establishes the school counseling program as part of the total program of instruction for all students. Staff is recommending that the policy be edited to: (1) provide a philosophy statement; (2) include a position section that sets forth the program goals; (3) include an implementation section; (4) conform with the Policy Review Committee's editing conventions.

Cost Analysis and Fiscal Impact on School System

No fiscal impact is anticipated by the revision of this policy.

Relationship to Other Board of Education Policies

1. Board of Education Policy 5470, *Wellness*

Legal Requirements

1. COMAR 13A.05.05.02, *School Counseling Program*

Similar Policies Adopted by Other Local School Systems

1. Harford County Board of Education, Policy 04-0011-000, *Guidance Programs*
2. Montgomery County Board of Education, Policy IJA, *School Counseling Programs and Services*

Draft of Proposed Policy

Attached

Other Alternatives Considered by Staff

No other alternatives were considered.

Timeline

First reading – March 20, 2012

Public comment – April 17, 2012

Third reading/vote – May 8, 2012

STUDENTS: Services to Students

School Counseling Services

I. PHILOSOPHY

- A. THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF BALTIMORE COUNTY (BOARD) IS COMMITTED TO ENSURING THAT ALL STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAMS AS PART OF THE TOTAL INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM. THE BOARD BELIEVES THAT A COMPREHENSIVE, DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE, SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM PROVIDED BY QUALIFIED SCHOOL COUNSELORS IS ESSENTIAL TO ACHIEVING THE BOARD'S MISSION OF PROVIDING A QUALITY EDUCATION THAT DEVELOPS THE CONTENT KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ATTITUDES THAT ENABLE ALL STUDENTS TO REACH THEIR MAXIMUM POTENTIAL AS RESPONSIBLE, LIFE-LONG LEARNERS AND PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS.

II. SCOPE

- A. THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE BOARD'S EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM TO PROMOTE AND ENHANCE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH ACADEMIC, CAREER, AND PERSONAL/SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. THE SCHOOL COUNSELORS SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE STUDENT ACQUISITION OF THE SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE, AND ATTITUDES TO BE COLLEGE, CAREER, AND LIFE-READY.
- B. THE SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM IS BASED ON THE AMERICAN SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION'S NATIONAL MODEL AND STATE STANDARDS, WHICH INCLUDE PREVENTION, INTERVENTION, AND CRISIS RESPONSE SERVICES.
- C. THE SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN GRADES K – 12 AND INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:
1. DIRECT SERVICES TO STUDENTS, INCLUDING INDIVIDUAL STUDENT ACADEMIC ADVISING AND CAREER PLANNING, INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING, SMALL GROUP COUNSELING, AND CLASSROOM GUIDANCE.

2. INDIRECT SERVICES THAT ADVOCATE FOR STUDENTS, INCLUDING COLLABORATION WITH PARENTS, STAFF, AND OUTSIDE AGENCIES TO REMOVE BARRIERS TO STUDENT SUCCESS.

III. IMPLEMENTATION

- A. THE BOARD DIRECTS THE SUPERINTENDENT TO IMPLEMENT THIS POLICY.

[The School Counseling Program shall be an integral part of the total program of instruction for all students.

School counselors deliver a comprehensive program of counseling services to all students based upon the goals of school success, mastering decision-making and career development skills, and demonstrating intrapersonal and interpersonal competencies. The delivery of this comprehensive counseling program is outlined in the *School Counseling Essential Curriculum and Non-Negotiables*.

In addition, school counselors at the secondary level support the *Blueprint for Progress* in areas related to college readiness and preparation including PSAT/SAT, college readiness, parallel enrollment at colleges, AP potential and AP programs. These services are provided through a combination of direct counseling interventions (individual and group counseling, classroom guidance), consultation services to staff and parents, and the coordination of related initiatives to foster academic success.

Alignment with the Baltimore County Public Schools' *Blueprint for Progress* is reflected in the goals for improved achievement for all students and the maintenance of a safe and orderly learning environment. The school counseling program assists with the need for the development of content, knowledge, skills, and attitudes that will enable students to reach their maximum potential as responsible, productive citizens, and life-long learners.]

LEGAL REFERENCE: COMAR 13A.05.05.02, *SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM*

RELATED POLICY: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5470, *WELLNESS*

Policy	Board of Education of Baltimore County
Adopted:	11/21/68
Revised:	07/12/84
Revised:	02/20/07
REVISED:	_____